

FORM NO. 51-61  
MAY 1949

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **Bulgaria**

DATE DISTR.

**15 Oct. 1951**

50X1-HUM

SUBJECT **Production of Non-Ferrous Metals and Ores**

NO. OF PAGES **1**

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2. Bulgarian copper mines:

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- a) Ludjana - no information available;
- b) Shastie [redacted]: The existence of calcopirite to 4%. At the mine there are all the installations necessary for regular work. However, there is insufficient electric power. The vein is not exhausted, although the reserve is unknown;

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- c) Plakalnitza [redacted] There exists an installation of black copper. Transport from the mine to the station of Eliseina is provided by cable seven kilometers long. Up until January 1941 the mine was the property of a French firm. After that date, it became the property of the Pernik state mine;

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- d) State mine near Panagurishte [redacted] The mine contains veins of copper ore with a gold content. Transport from the mine is by road as far as the stations of Panagurishte (7 kilometers) and Pazardzjik (15 kilometers). No information is available on the mine reserves and on the possible annual production. A study made in 1942 indicated the possibility of a productive yield;

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- e) Burgas area on Black Sea coast [redacted]

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Ikonow Mine ) Transport of ore to the port of Burgas is over  
Trud Mine ) a road 8 kilometers long

Istok Mine ) Transport of ore to the port of Burgas is by  
Rosen Mine ) water or by 20 kilometers of road.

The following are data on the production of the Rosen Mine:  
1946 - 4,114 tons; 1947 - 13,464 tons;

- f) Mining district of Rhodope: no information available.

3. No information is available on the Bulgarian lead-zinc mines listed.

4. No information is available on the Zlata and Tehopoise gold mines.

5. The following information [redacted] on the following additional Bulgarian mines:

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- a) Jana Gold Mine (between Novoselci and Sranci, 25 kilometers East of Sofia). [redacted] Occupied by the Soviets. All production from the mine is sent to Russia;

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- b) Copper, zinc and lead mine of Stragel (50 kilometers approximately East of Sofia). [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
 [redacted] In the mine there are 1300 workers employed, all members of the Communist Party. Among directive personnel of the mine there are several Soviet technicians who in effect control all the production. The mines are worked 24 hours running in 8 hour shifts. 50X1-HUM

Production: Before and during the war, the daily production of the mine was from 6-7 tons. In 1946, after nationalization, a new vein was discovered. With the arrival of electric compressors from Russia and with the electrification of the rail line from the mine to the refinery, and with improvement of work systems, the daily production has reached 25-30 tons.

Refining: The refinery is situated 80 meters from the entrance of the mine. Material reaches the refinery on a small electric railway or pushed by hand. The ore is sifted electrically. Then it is washed and dried. Then it is placed in paper bags of 50 kgs. each. A half of the production is sent to Russia and the other half goes to the foundry which is near the refinery. 50X1-HUM

Direct communications with the mine: [redacted]  
 [redacted] the railroad line Makolevo-Sopot under construction in which it is expected a spur from Pirdop-Stragel will be constructed. In the meantime, communications are maintained over the roads to Pirdop and Saranci. In the latter locality the ore is loaded on railroad cars;

- c) Coal mine at Pernik (30 kilometers Southwest of Sofia). [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
 [redacted] It is the most important coal mine in Bulgaria, but no other information is available; 50X1-HUM
- d) Lead and copper mine "Zar Assen" near Pavelsko (20 kilometers Southwest of Asenovgrad in Valle Capelarask). [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
 [redacted] This mine was nationalized, but no other information is available; 50X1-HUM
- e) Uranium mine of Buhovo (20 kilometers Northeast of Sofia). About 1500 soldiers and 3000 civilians working there. The ore is shipped to a plant 4 or 5 kilometers from the mine where it is washed and cleaned. After this preliminary operation, it is packed and shipped to the Soviet Union.

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